Research Proposal Template

The research proposal must be written in English, with a minimum of 1,000 words and a maximum of 3,500 words excluding the list of references. The research proposal should include:

1. **Project Title**

Provide a short descriptive title of no more than 20 words.

1. **Project Summary**

In no more than 100 words, provide a summary of the proposed research project in language comprehensible to someone outside your field.

1. **Background**

Describe the status quo of relevant research in the area and identify a gap in knowledge or activities that must be filled to move the field forward. This should include a comprehensive literature review.

1. **Objectives and Research Questions**

Describe the objectives or the intended outcomes of the project. State and explain the research questions and include the hypotheses (as appropriate) or problem to be addressed.

1. **Theoretical Framework and Methods**

Describe the research design and methods of analysis you will use to accomplish the objectives, and to answer the research questions.

1. **Significance / Contribution of the Proposed Research**

Explain the likely significance of your research and how it will impact the research field.

1. **Risk Mitigation Strategy**

Outline the potential risks and challenges anticipated in the proposed research, along with proactive measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate their impact.

1. **Research Plan and Timeline**

Summarise the key actions and milestones of the proposed research, with a full-time programme spanning 3-4 years and a part-time programme extending over 4-6 years. It is advisable that a Gantt chart included in the Research Proposal to illustrate the various stages and activities of the research project in terms of a schedule to meet time-lines and milestones.

1. **References**

Provide bibliographic details of all references cited, adopting a standardised format.

**Notes:**

The University upholds the highest standards of academic integrity to ensure that the research of our staff and students is of high quality and conducted in a rigorous and ethical way. All work, including the Research Proposal, should be properly referenced.

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